

7. Support Ukraine's participation in the global space program.

8. Urge the U.S. Congress to follow Ukraine's lead and ratify both agreements dealing with double taxation and investment promotion and protection.

#### BUSINESS INVESTMENT ISSUES

1. Encourage Ukraine to establish clear property and contract rights, in harmony with international norms, so that both foreign and domestic investors' rights can be protected and enforced.

2. Under the joint sponsorship of the Ukrainian Union of Entrepreneurs and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, establish a Business Forum composed of CEOs and senior management to meet once a year to discuss business opportunities and obstacles in Ukraine and the United States.

3. Encourage Ukraine to establish an equitable and rational tax code which abjures retroactivity, double indemnity, discrimination, and punitive taxation levels.

4. Express clearly to the U.S. Congress and executive branch the AUAC's strong support for rule of law programs which could improve significantly Ukraine's business investment climate (e.g. development of commercial code, enforcement of decisions of Arbitration Courts), and identifies this area as a priority.

5. Encourage the Kyiv Political-Economic Working Group to provide the Western NIS Enterprise Fund (Ukraine) with specific investment/joint venture guidance and suggestions on small business projects.

6. Work through the Center for International Private Enterprise, an affiliate of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, to conduct seminars on investment opportunities in different sectors of the Ukrainian economy.

#### CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE CONNECTICUT LEGISLATIVE BLACK AND PUERTO RICAN CAUCUS

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 18, 1995*

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give recognition to an organization that has helped countless residents in my State for 20 years: the Connecticut Legislative Black and Puerto Rican Caucus.

The Caucus was formed in January 1976, under the leadership of its first chairman, Representative Clyde Billington, Jr., of Hartford. In subsequent years, this leadership was provided by distinguished legislators Maurice Mosley of Waterbury, Walter Brooks of New Haven, William Dyson of New Haven, Abraham Giles of Hartford, Eric Coleman of Bloomfield, Ernest Newton of Bridgeport and Wade Hyslop of New London.

The Caucus membership includes 13 African-American and Puerto Rican members—currently 10 Representatives and 3 Senators. These hard-working, dedicated members strive not only to find solutions to problems, but to promote the cultural diversity we are so fortunate to have in Connecticut.

Throughout its 20-year history, the Caucus has worked to improve the lives of African-Americans and Latino Americans. The Caucus promotes the growth of minority-owned business, and works to expand economic and educational opportunities in our communities.

It seeks to advance the cooperation and effectiveness of legislatures in U.S. States, territories, possessions, and commonwealths, and to make them more accountable and accessible to all residents. It places as one of its highest priorities the fulfillment of goals of the African-American and Latino American communities.

Among other accomplishments, the Caucus was instrumental in persuading the State of Connecticut to divest from South Africa; in calling attention to the plight of Haitians; and in calling for the appointment of African-American Curtissa Coffield to the State Supreme Court.

My home State has reaped enormous benefits from the work of the Connecticut Legislative Black and Puerto Rican Caucus. Its current chairwoman, Annette Carter, heads a team of dedicated leaders who work hard to help all of us. As the Caucus continues its work and accomplishments into the next century, my State and the Nation will benefit. I thank the Caucus for its endeavors and applaud its mission.

#### TAX RELIEF AND THE RIGHT TO WORK FOR OLDER AMERICANS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 18, 1995*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commend the House of Representatives for passing H.R. 2684, the Senior Citizens' Right To Work Act of 1995, which ends the practice of punishing older Americans who want to work.

Earlier this year, I promised the 1 million working, older Americans financial relief from the punitive Social Security earnings limit which is wrongly imposed on them. H.R. 2684, fulfills my promise by increasing the earnings limit to \$30,000 by the year 2002. Today, many people across the Nation want or need to work beyond the age of 64 because a fixed Social Security income alone cannot provide adequate financial resources.

This Nation has a tremendous amount of talent available in its older Americans. Younger people in the workplace gain a lot through the experience of these individuals who continue to work. Simply put, lifting the earnings limit is the right thing to do because it is good for all of us.

When fully phased in, the Senior Citizens' Right To Work Act will exempt about 50 percent of the people who currently have to comply with the earnings limit. These individuals have worked hard to pay into the Social Security trust fund. This legislation keeps our promise to lift the earnings limit for older people so they can continue to contribute to our Nation.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DEBATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THREE MEASURES RELATING TO UNITED STATES TROOP DEPLOYMENTS IN BOSNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. RONALD D. COLEMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 13, 1995*

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, we are facing an important and difficult moment: Should we send United States troops into Bosnia? Deploying U.S. troops to foreign territory and possibly into harm's way is always a difficult decision.

There is, however, one compelling rationale for United States participation in the international peacekeeping force; Bosnia has been the victim of international aggression and of crime against humanity that the Bosnian Serbs, supported by the Milosevic regime in Belgrade, have committed against hundreds of thousands of predominantly Moslem Bosnians.

The American people are rightly outraged by the atrocities suffered by the Bosnian people: mass executions, ethnic cleansing, concentration camps, rape and terror, disease and starvation. Numerous accounts report on the slaughter of innocent civilians in Srebrenica. Peace is the only way to end the terrible human toll of this year. Now, with the official signing of the peace agreement in Paris this week, the warring factions have agreed to peace and the principles of the settlement. We finally have a chance to end the violence that has been so perniciously directed at specific groups because of their faith.

President Bill Clinton, and U.S. diplomatic effort brought the parties to the peace table. The progress we have made toward peace has been the result of American leadership. NATO's bombing campaign, led by American pilots, stopped Serb attacks against the safe areas. In Dayton, our single-minded pursuit of peace helped the parties reach an overall settlement. The Presidents of Croatia, Serbia, and Bosnia have made a serious commitment to peace. We must help them to make it work.

After 4 years of war, a credible international military presence is needed to give the parties confidence to live up to their agreement and breathing room to begin reconciliation and rebuilding. NATO, proven strong and effective, is that military presence. And the U.S. is the heart of NATO. If we fail to do our part in implementation, we would undermine our leadership of NATO. We would weaken the alliance itself. We would also undercut the chance for peace in Bosnia to the detriment of our own interests. At this pivotal point in time, our U.S. troops and our Commander in Chief deserve our complete support and confidence.

President Clinton has clearly defined the objectives of the implementation force [I-For] and stated our exact role in the international peacekeeping mission. I-For's mission is limited to assisting the parties in executing the military aspects of the peace agreement. These efforts, in turn, will help create a secure environment that will enable the people of Bosnia to get on with the job of rebuilding. To

ensure a stable Bosnia, we must be committed, publicly and resolutely, to the I-For mission, and most importantly to our United States troops.

**SUPPORTING THE INDEPENDENCE  
AND SOVEREIGNTY OF UKRAINE  
AND ITS POLITICAL AND ECO-  
NOMIC REFORMS**

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 18, 1995*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing House Concurrent Resolution 120, expressing the support of the United States Congress for the independence and sovereignty of Ukraine and for political and economic reforms in that important country. In laying out a number of areas that both Ukraine and the United States should focus upon, House Concurrent Resolution 120 should serve as a contribution to the evolving relationship between our two countries. I am pleased that I am joined in sponsoring this resolution by my colleagues, Mr. GOODLING, Mr. SOLOMON, and Mr. HOKE.

The challenges Ukraine faces in ensuring its independence and in successfully implementing political and economic reforms should not be minimized. In the area of economic reforms, in particular, the Ukrainian people face many difficult struggles. The United States is providing vitally needed assistance intended to focus on those economic reforms that are key to Ukraine's economic transformation and, ultimately, to its continued independence. The international community has also begun to provide substantial assistance and loans to Ukraine in support of economic reforms there. As this resolution clearly points out, however, the ultimate responsibility for the success of those reforms lies with the President and Parliament of that country. It is, quite simply, a question of Ukraine's future independence. If Ukraine's leadership cannot overcome the political and economic legacy of the failed Soviet Union, that legacy will drag Ukraine's people backward. The burdens of that Soviet legacy are the greatest challenge to Ukraine's assumption of its proper place in Europe and in the trans-Atlantic community, and those burdens must be overcome.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 120 has a number of very positive things to say about Ukraine. Ukraine must be commended for the success of its political reforms to date. Ukraine has yet to adopt a new constitution that, by clearly defining the separation of powers among the branches of government, would lay a strong foundation upon which to consolidate Ukrainian democracy. Despite that, Ukraine has managed to carry out—in a free and fair manner—its first Presidential and Parliamentary elections as an independent State. Ukraine was also the first of those States that arose from the collapse of the Soviet Union to carry out a peaceful, democratic transfer of executive power. It is the first of those States to place its Ministry of Defense under civilian control. Finally, in June of this year, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and the Ukrainian Parliament agreed to an interim political arrangement, pending the adoption of a new constitution. That arrangement should allow the President to move forward with pri-

vatzation of State-owned enterprises and other important reforms.

In closing, let me say that the future peace and prosperity of Ukraine also depends greatly on the behavior of its neighbors. The Russian Federation, in particular, should redouble its efforts to achieve a bilateral treaty with Ukraine that clearly accepts and respects Ukraine's independence. Russia should also move quickly to achieve a final and fair agreement with Ukraine on the disposition and basing of the Black Sea fleet. Ukraine has sought to work with Russia on various issues. Most important, Ukraine has agreed to become a nonnuclear State, relinquishing its Soviet-era nuclear weapons to Russia. It is appropriate for Russia to respond in a cooperative spirit by fairly dividing the fleet with Ukraine, paying appropriate compensation for the use of Ukrainian ports or facilities, and recognizing Ukrainian sovereignty. This would be no less than Russia itself would expect with regard to its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Mr. Speaker, Ukraine is the second largest State in all of Europe, with the sixth largest population. House Concurrent Resolution 120 makes clear just how important Ukraine is to the peace, stability, and prosperity of Europe and therefore to the trans-Atlantic community of nations. American can and should play a vital role in helping Ukraine through these difficult times.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the full text of the resolution be inserted in the RECORD at this point.

H. CON. RES. 120

Supporting the independence and sovereignty of Ukraine and the progress of its political and economic reforms.

Whereas August 24, 1995, marked the fourth anniversary of the independence of Ukraine;

Whereas the independent State of Ukraine is a member State of the United Nations and the United Nations has established in Ukraine an office to assist Ukraine in building relations with the international community and in coordinating international assistance for Ukraine;

Whereas the independent State of Ukraine is a member State of the Council of Europe, the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the North Atlantic Cooperation Council of the North Atlantic Alliance, is a participant in the Partnership for Peace program of the North Atlantic Alliance, and has entered into a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with the European Union and has been accepted for membership in the Central European Initiative in 1996;

Whereas the United States recognized Ukraine as an independent State on December 25, 1991, and established diplomatic relations with Ukraine on January 2, 1992;

Whereas Ukraine is a major European nation, having the second largest territory and sixth largest population of all the States of Europe;

Whereas Ukraine has an important geopolitical and economic role to play within Central and Eastern Europe and a strong, stable, and secure Ukraine serves the interests of peace and stability in all of Europe, which is also an important national security interest of the United States;

Whereas Ukraine conducted its first presidential and parliamentary elections as an independent State in 1994, carrying such elections out in a free and fair manner and moving further away from the former communist model of one-party, centralized, totalitarian rule;

Whereas Ukraine's presidential elections of July 1994 resulted in the first peaceful trans-

fer of executive power in any of the independent States of the former Soviet Union;

Whereas in June 1995, through peaceful cooperation and compromise, the President and Parliament of Ukraine reached a political accord meant to better define the balance of powers between the executive and legislative branches of government, pending the adoption of a new constitution for Ukraine;

Whereas Ukraine is the first of the independent states of the former Soviet Union to appoint a civilian to the office of Minister of Defense;

Whereas Ukraine is pursuing political and economic reforms intended to ensure its future strength, stability, and security and to ensure that it will assume its rightful place among the international community of democratic States and in European and trans-Atlantic institutions;

Whereas through the agreement by the Government of Ukraine to the establishment of a mission from the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe in the region of Crimea, Ukraine has shown its interest in avoiding the use of force in resolving ethnic and regional disputes within Ukraine;

Whereas Ukraine has taken very positive steps in supporting efforts to stem proliferation of nuclear weapons by ratifying the START I Treaty on nuclear disarmament and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, thereby relinquishing nuclear weapons it possessed after the dissolution of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

Whereas in December 1994, the Presidents of the United States and the Russian Federation and the Prime Minister of Great Britain signed a Memorandum on National Security Assurances for Ukraine as depository States under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

Whereas the Secretary of Defense of the United States and the Minister of Defense of Ukraine signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of defense and military relations on July 27, 1993;

Whereas Ukraine has sought to promote constructive cooperation with its neighbors through humanitarian assistance and through mediation of disputes;

Whereas Ukraine has provided Ukrainian troops as part of the international peacekeeping force meant to prevent the spread of conflict in the states of the former Yugoslavia; and

Whereas Ukraine has played a vital role in preventing the emergence of a coercive military bloc on the territory of the former Soviet Union by representing the interests of the smaller states that are members of the organization known as the Commonwealth of Independent States; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—*

(1) Ukraine has made significant progress in political reform in its first 4 years of independence and that it is to be congratulated for the successful conduct of free and fair elections for the presidency and parliament;

(2) the territorial integrity of Ukraine in its existing borders is an important element of European peace and stability;

(3) the President and Parliament of Ukraine should continue their strong efforts to agree upon and submit to the Ukrainian people for their approval a new democratic constitution providing for a proper balance of power between the branches of government;

(4) the Government of Ukraine should continue its efforts to ensure the rights of all citizens of Ukraine regardless of their ethnic or religious background;

(5) the Government of Ukraine should continue and accelerate its efforts to transform